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SONIC

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

THE HEDGEHOG™



DonBates

WELCOME TO THE
PLANET *MOBIUS*--
A WORLD *UNIQUE*
AND BEYOND WHAT
YOU KNOW FROM
THE *SEGA GAMES*--
WHERE *SONIC* AND
THE HEROIC
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
WORK TO SAVE THE
WORLD FROM THE
FORCES OF *EVIL*!

CHANGING TEMPO

WOULD
YOU
RELAX?

WE'RE
HERE TO
HAVE SOME
FUN!

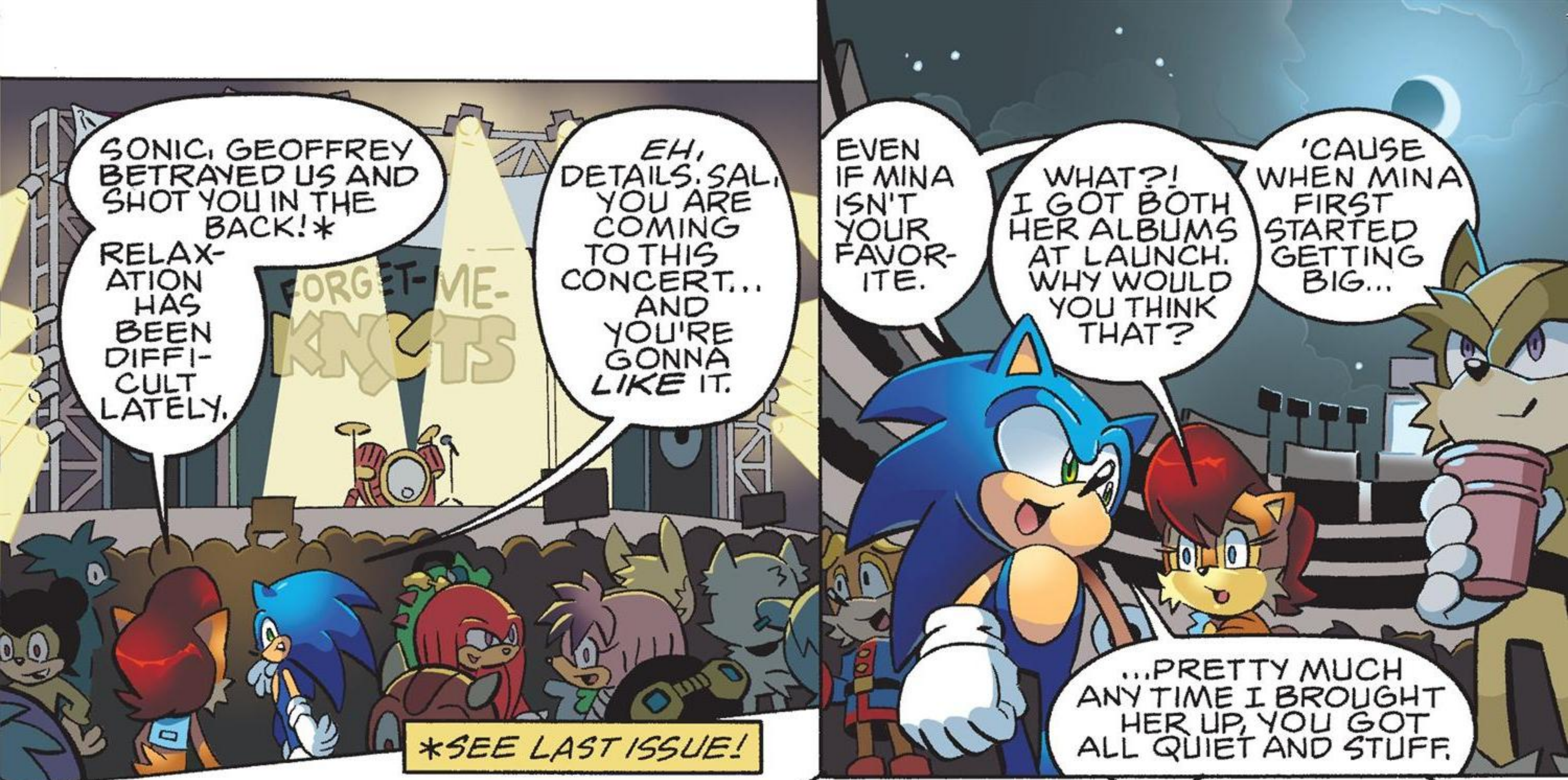
UH
HUH...



WRITER: IAN FLYNN
PENCILS AND COVER ART:
BEN BATES
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLORS: MATT HERMS
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
VICTOR GORELICK
PRESIDENT: MIKE PELLERITO

SPECIAL THANKS TO CINDY CHAU
AND JERRY CHU
AT SEGA LICENSING





SONIC, GEOFFREY BETRAYED US AND SHOT YOU IN THE BACK!*

RELAXATION HAS BEEN DIFFICULT LATELY.

EH, DETAILS. SALLY, YOU ARE COMING TO THIS CONCERT... AND YOU'RE GONNA LIKE IT.

EVEN IF MINA ISN'T YOUR FAVORITE.

WHAT?! I GOT BOTH HER ALBUMS AT LAUNCH. WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT?

'CAUSE WHEN MINA FIRST STARTED GETTING BIG...

*SEE LAST ISSUE!

...PRETTY MUCH ANY TIME I BROUGHT HER UP, YOU GOT ALL QUIET AND STUFF.



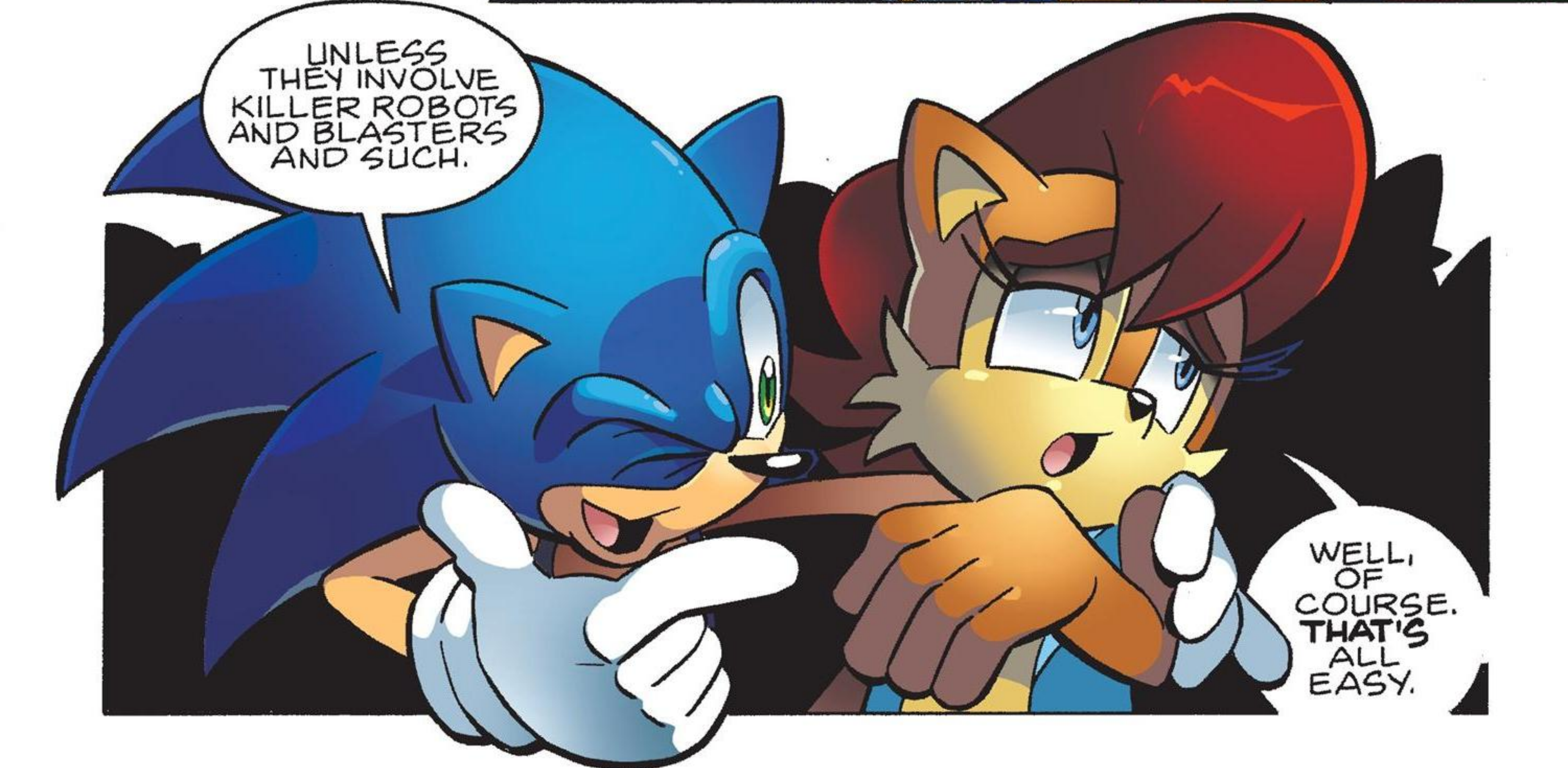
OH, THAT. I... I THOUGHT SHE WAS TRYING TO DATE YOU, AND I WAS JEALOUS.

YOU...WAIT, WHAT?

SEE, SALLY, THIS IS WHY WE SHOULD DO THIS "TALKING" THING MORE. WE COULD'VE SAVED OURSELVES A LOT OF ANGST.

I KNOW, I KNOW. I DON'T HANDLE CONFRONTATIONS WELL.

SO ALL THAT AWKWARDNESS AND TIME APART...

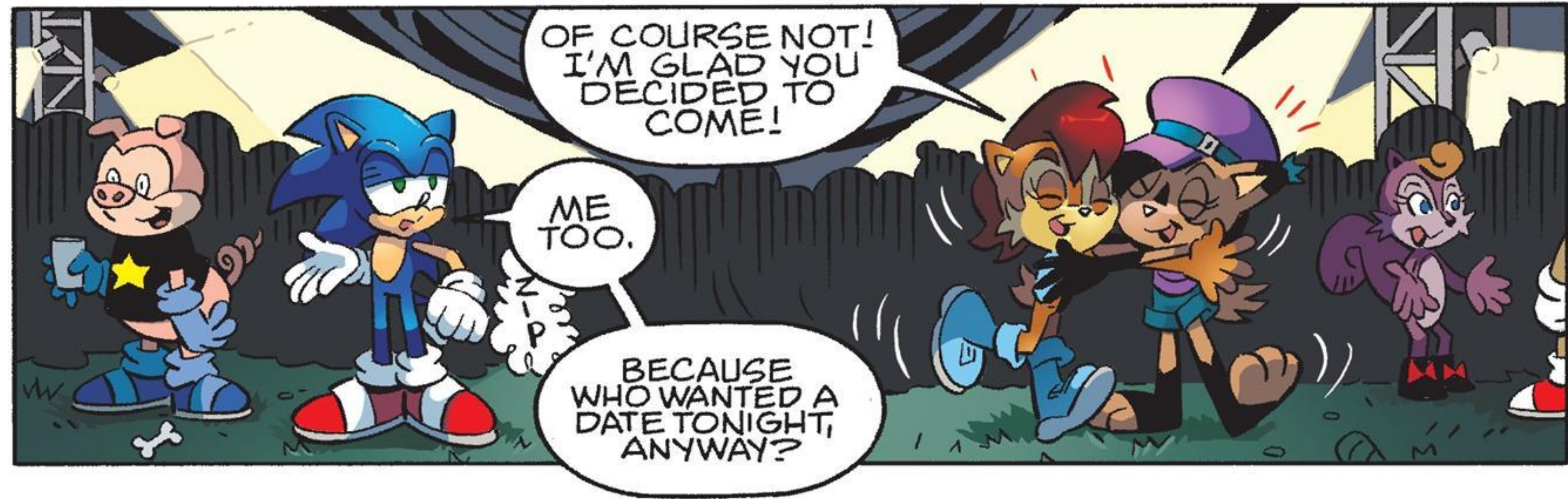


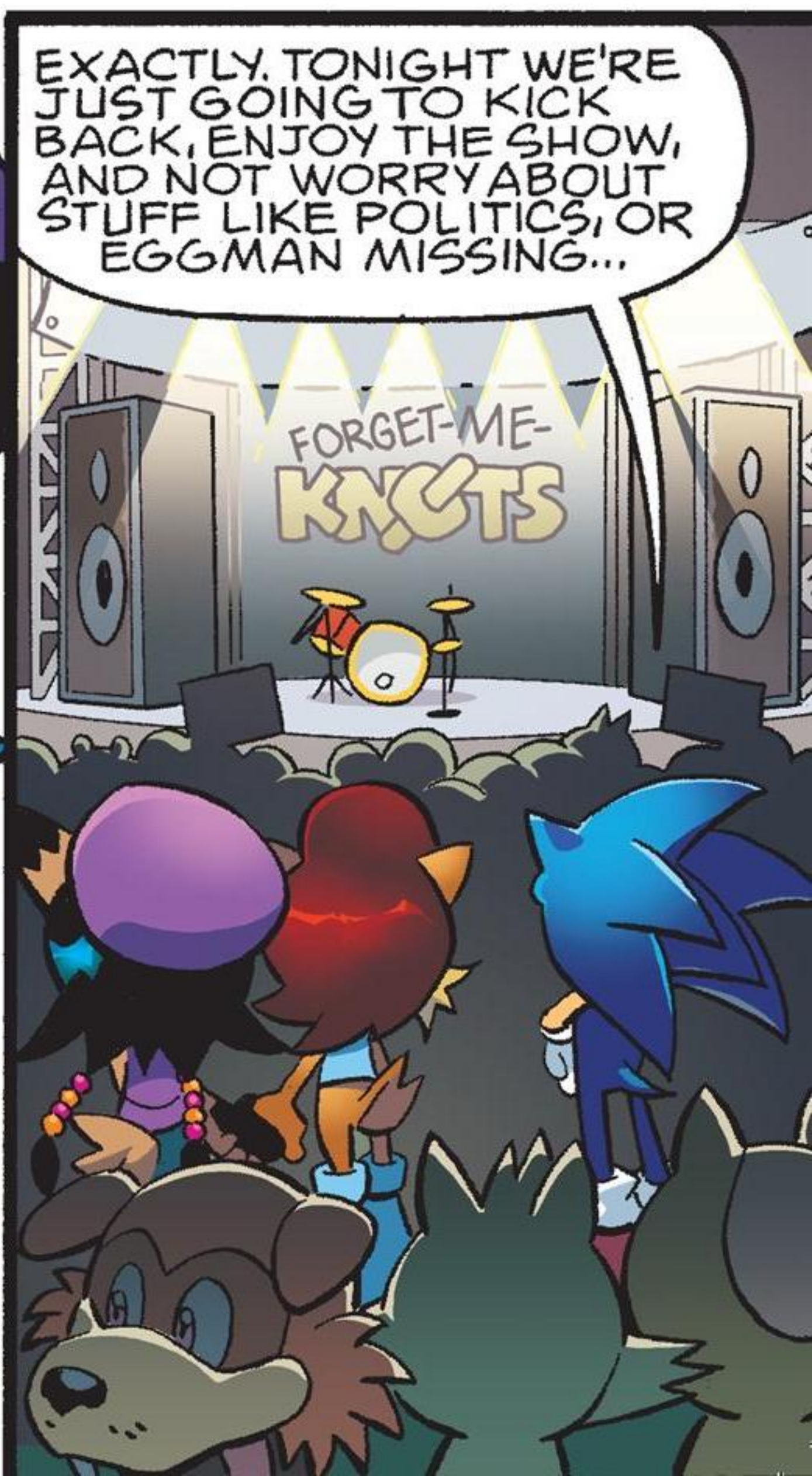
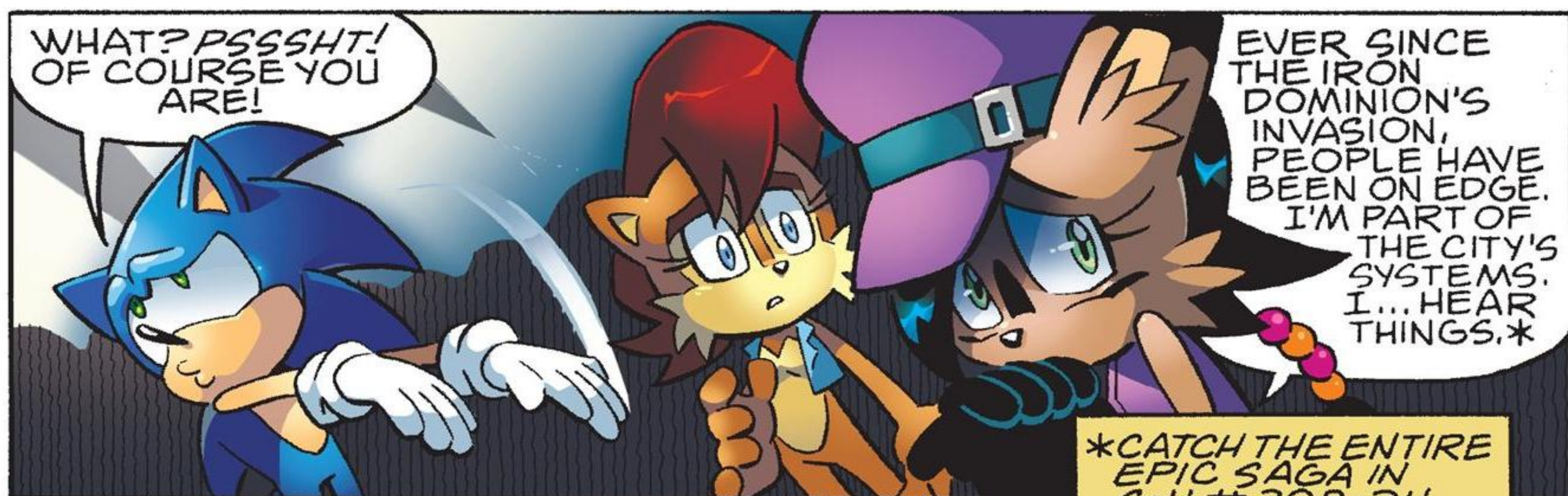
UNLESS THEY INVOLVE KILLER ROBOTS AND BLASTERS AND SUCH.

WELL, OF COURSE. THAT'S ALL EASY.

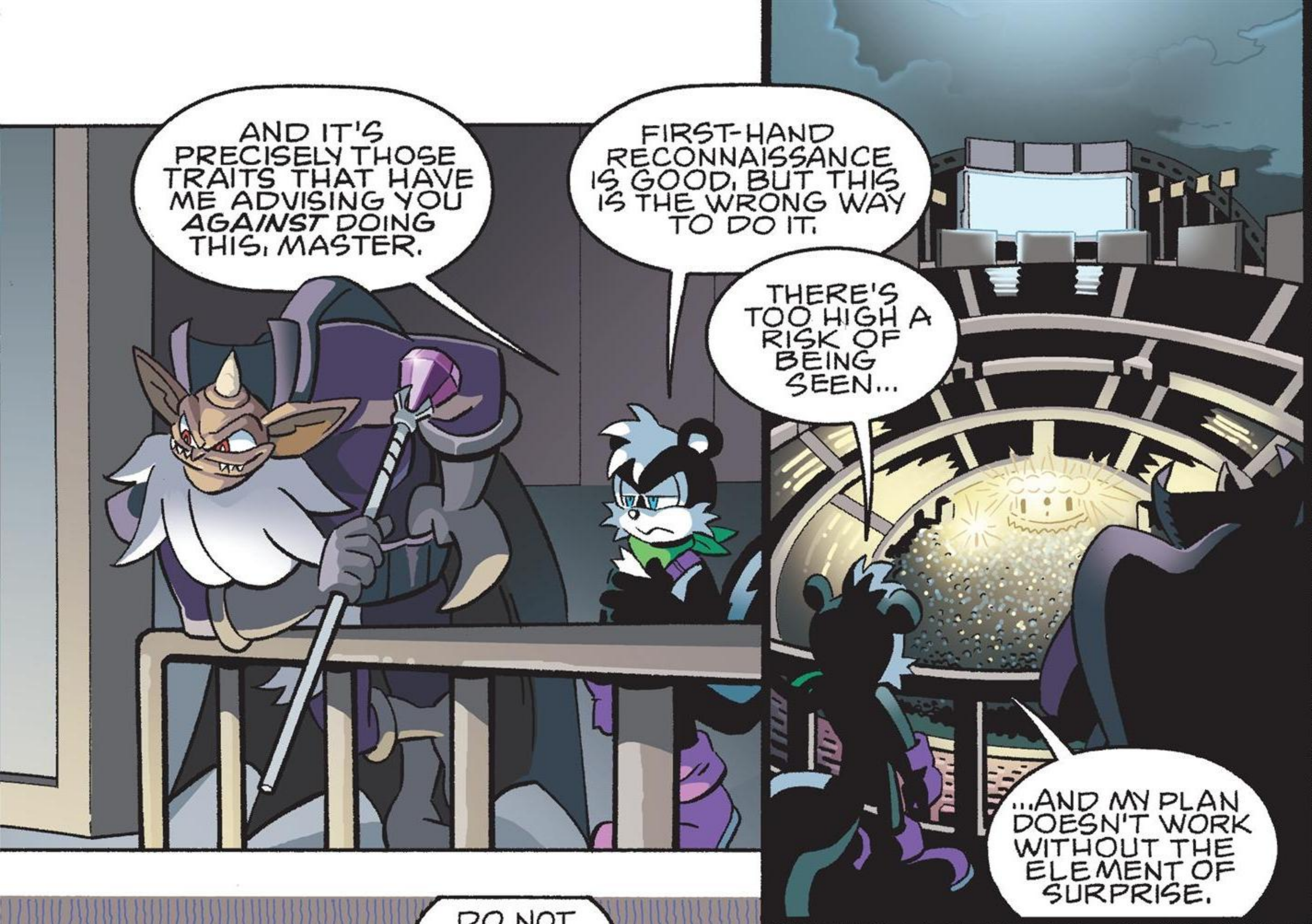


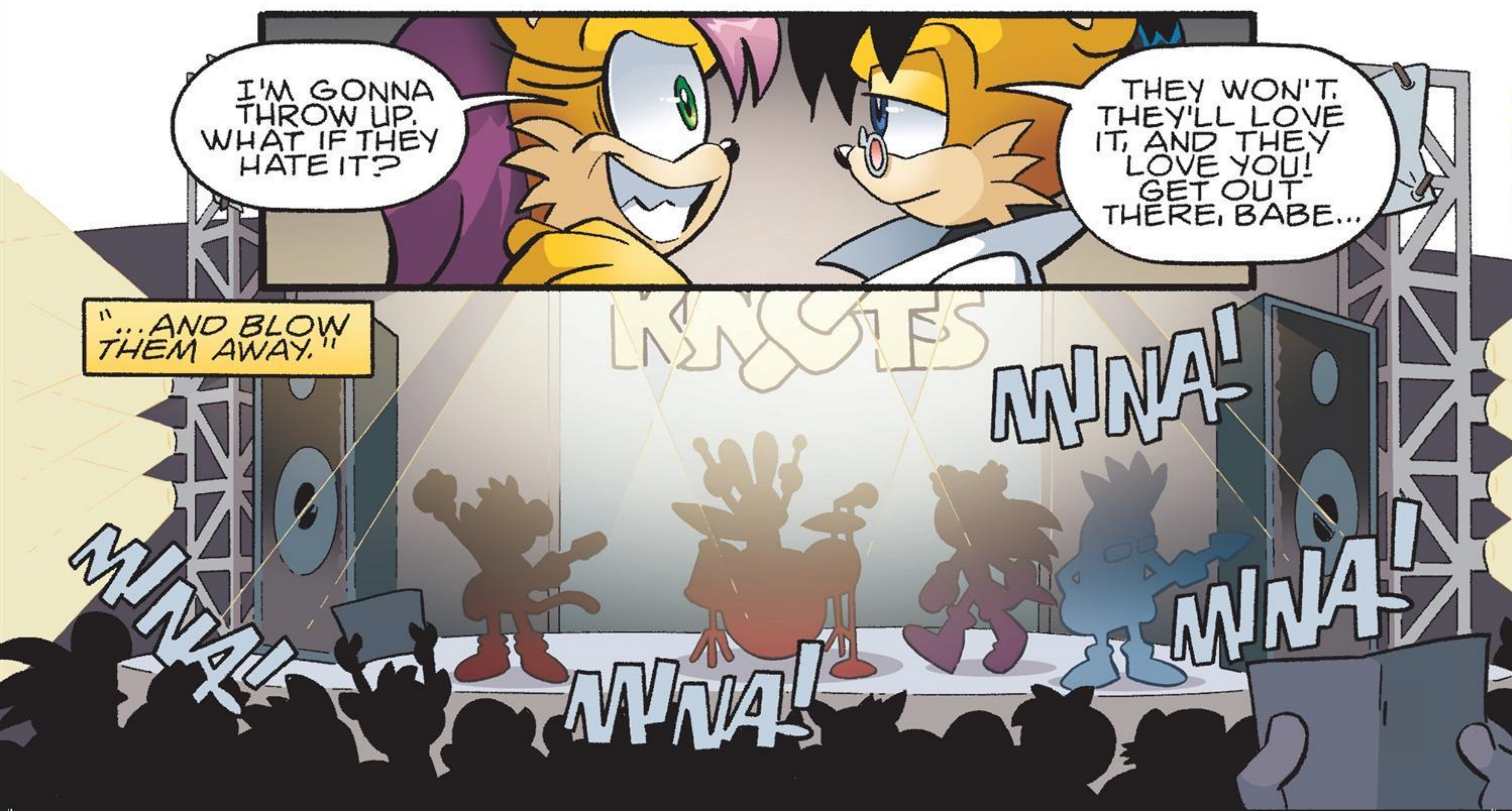
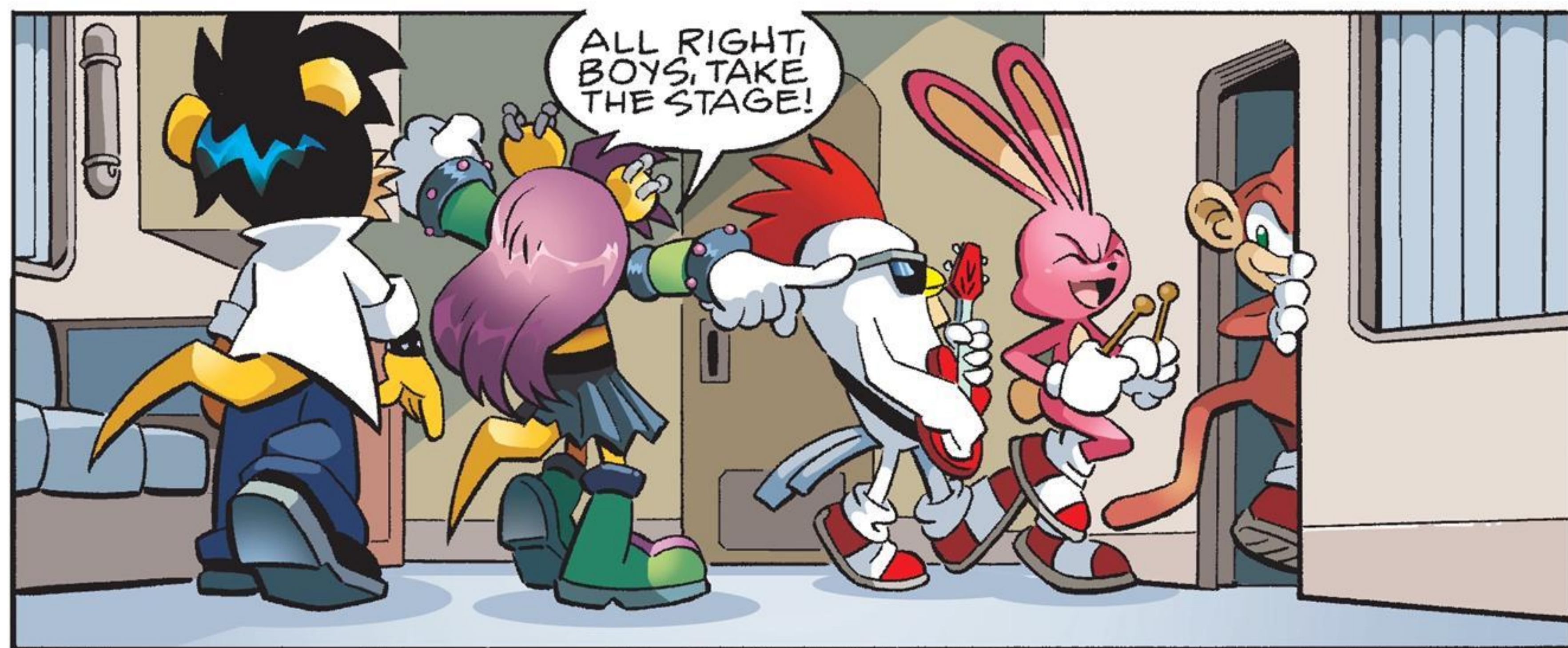
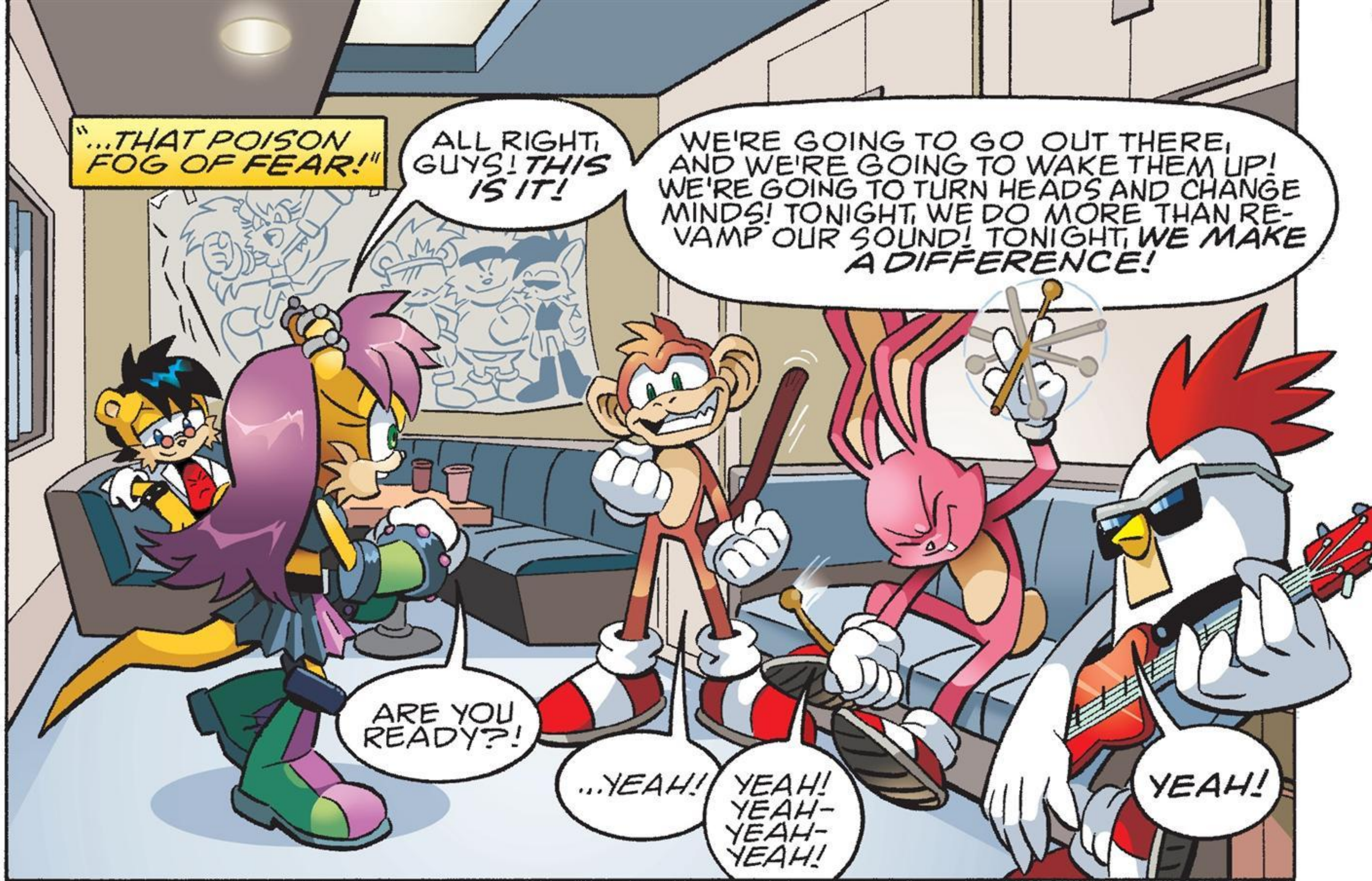
*STH # 212











YAY

GOOD EVENING,
NEW MOBO-
TROPOLIS!

AAAAAYY

YOU
KNOW ME.
YOU KNOW
THE BAND.
BUT YOU
DON'T KNOW
THE TREAT
YOU'RE IN
FOR!

NO NEED
TO START
OFF GENTLY!
THESE
PEOPLE
CAN TAKE
IT!

HIT IT,
SHARPS!

YIAAAY



WHOO!





I LIE AWAKE--!
IN MY BED--!
JUST CAN'T SLEEP--!
FULL OF DREAD--

WILL THE
NIGHTMARES
COME FOR ME
THIIIIIS TIME?

IN THE DAY--!
IN THE NIGHT--!
NEVER KNOWING--!
FULL OF FRIGHT--!
WHY WON'T ANYONE
LIIIIIIIIIIISTEN?

I CAN'T ALWAYS BE
JUMPING AT
SHAAAAAAAAAAADOWS!
I CAN'T ALWAYS BE
RUNNING
AWAAAAAAAAAY!

I WON'T BE AFRAID!
I'LL SAVE MYSELF!
I WON'T BE AFRAID!
I'LL SAVE MYSELF!



SHE'S EVERYWHERE---!
EVERYTHING---!
BUT HEROES AREN'T
LISTENING---!
WE'RE ALL LEFT PRONE---!
UNPROTEEEEEECTED!

IT'S PAINFULLY--
OB-VI-OUS---!
THEY WON'T ACT---!
IT'S UP TO US---!
WE WON'T LIVE IN
FEAR OF THE
CIIIIIIITY!

WE CAN'T ALWAYS
BE JUMPING AT
SHAAAAAAADOWS!
WE CAN'T ALWAYS
BE RUNNING
AWAAAAAAAAAY!

WE WON'T BE
AFRAID!
WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!
WE WON'T BE
AFRAID!
WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!



WE WON'T BE
AFRAID!
WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!

WE WON'T
BE AFRAID!

WE WON'T BE
AFRAID!

WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!

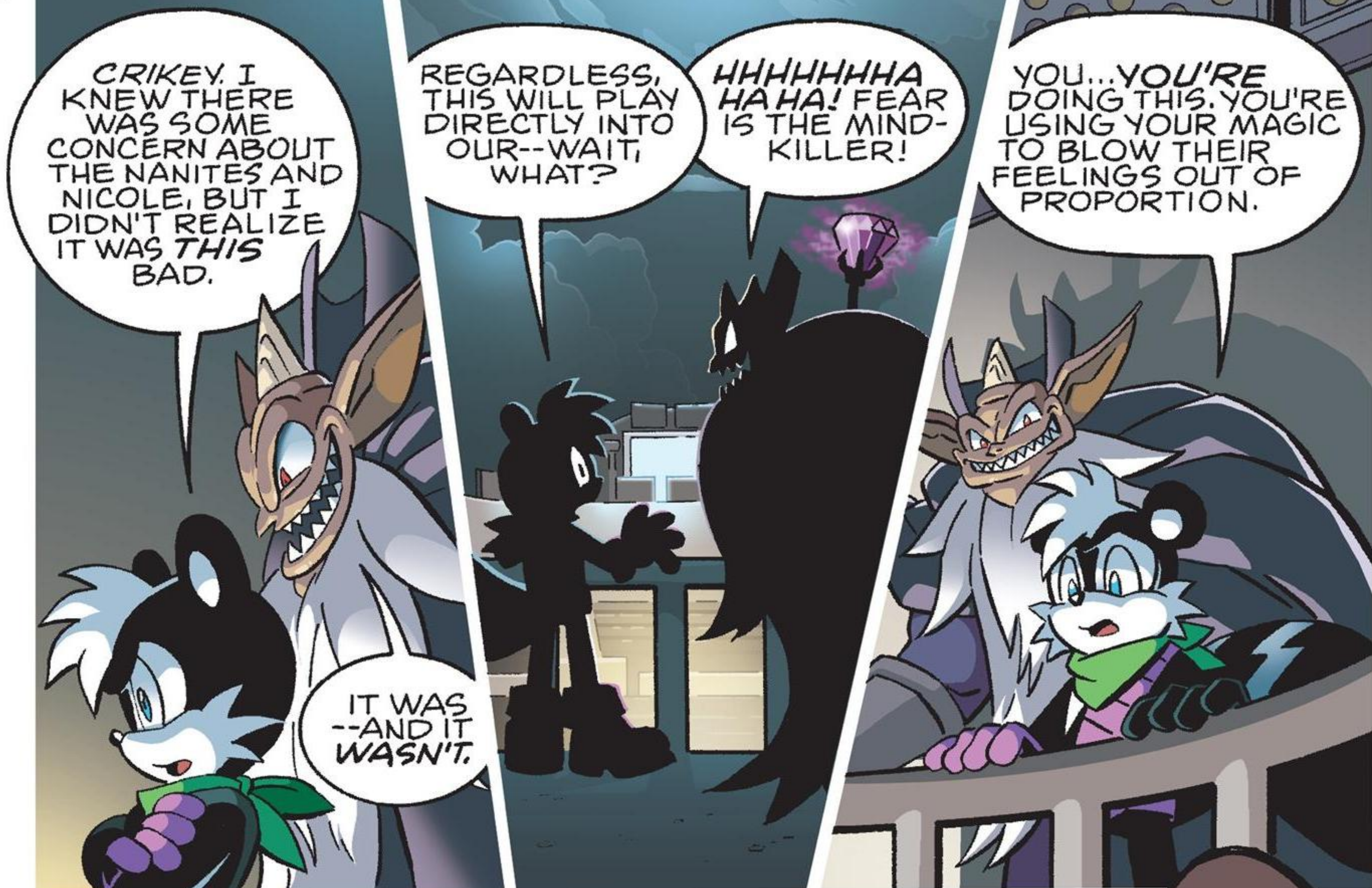
WE WON'T BE
AFRAID!

...NICOLE?

WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!

WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!

WE WON'T BE
AFRAID!
WE'LL SAVE
OURSELVES!



CRIKEY. I KNEW THERE WAS SOME CONCERN ABOUT THE NANITES AND NICOLE, BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS *THIS* BAD.

REGARDLESS, THIS WILL PLAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR--WAIT, WHAT?

HHHHHHHA HAHA! FEAR IS THE MIND-KILLER!

YOU...YOU'RE DOING THIS. YOU'RE USING YOUR MAGIC TO BLOW THEIR FEELINGS OUT OF PROPORTION.

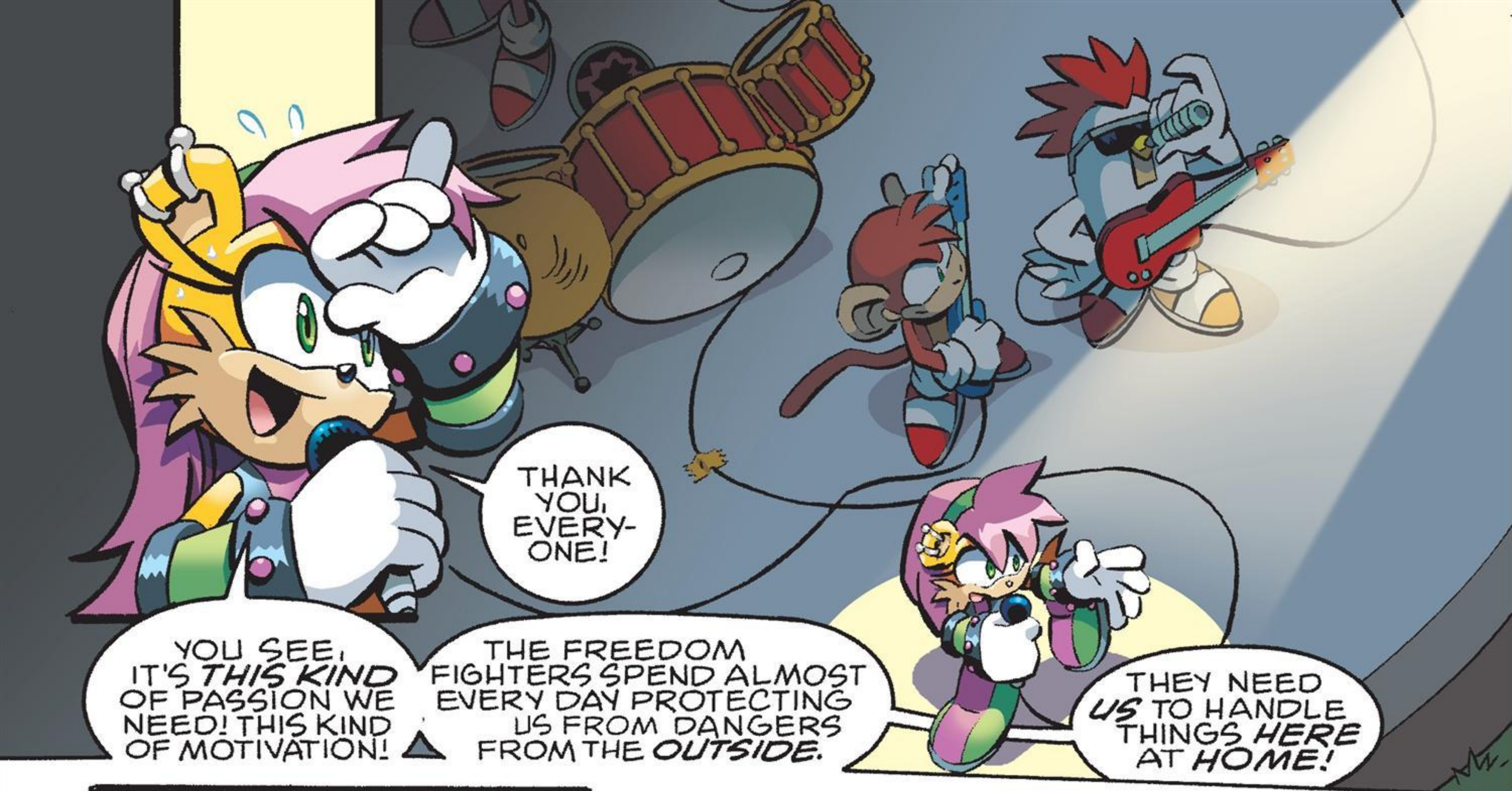
IT WAS --AND IT WASN'T.



JUST AS IN THE GREAT WAR...

...THEY WILL DO MORE THAN CALL FOR REFORM...

...THEY'LL BE BAYING FOR BLOOD!



AFTER THE
CONCERT...



THANK
YOU! THANK
YOU! GOOD
NIGHT, EVERY-
BODY! THANKS
FOR COMING
OUT!



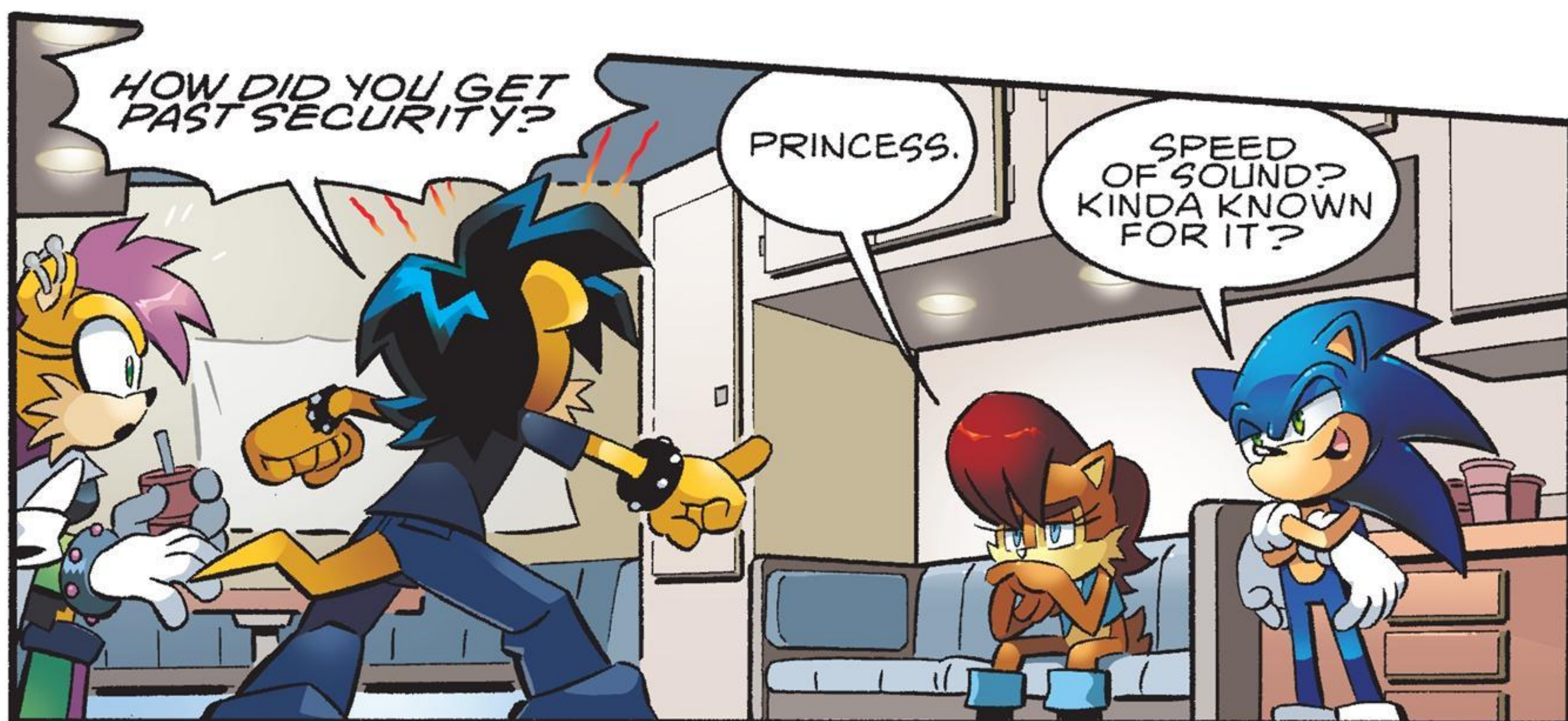
WHAT DID
I TELL YOU,
BABE?! YOU
WERE **GREAT!**
THEY ATE IT UP!
A COUPLE MORE
SHOWS HERE,
AND THEN
WE'LL HIT
THE ROAD
TO--



LIH...YOU
GUYS GO IN
FIRST.

YOU
KNOW THEM
BETTER
THAN US.

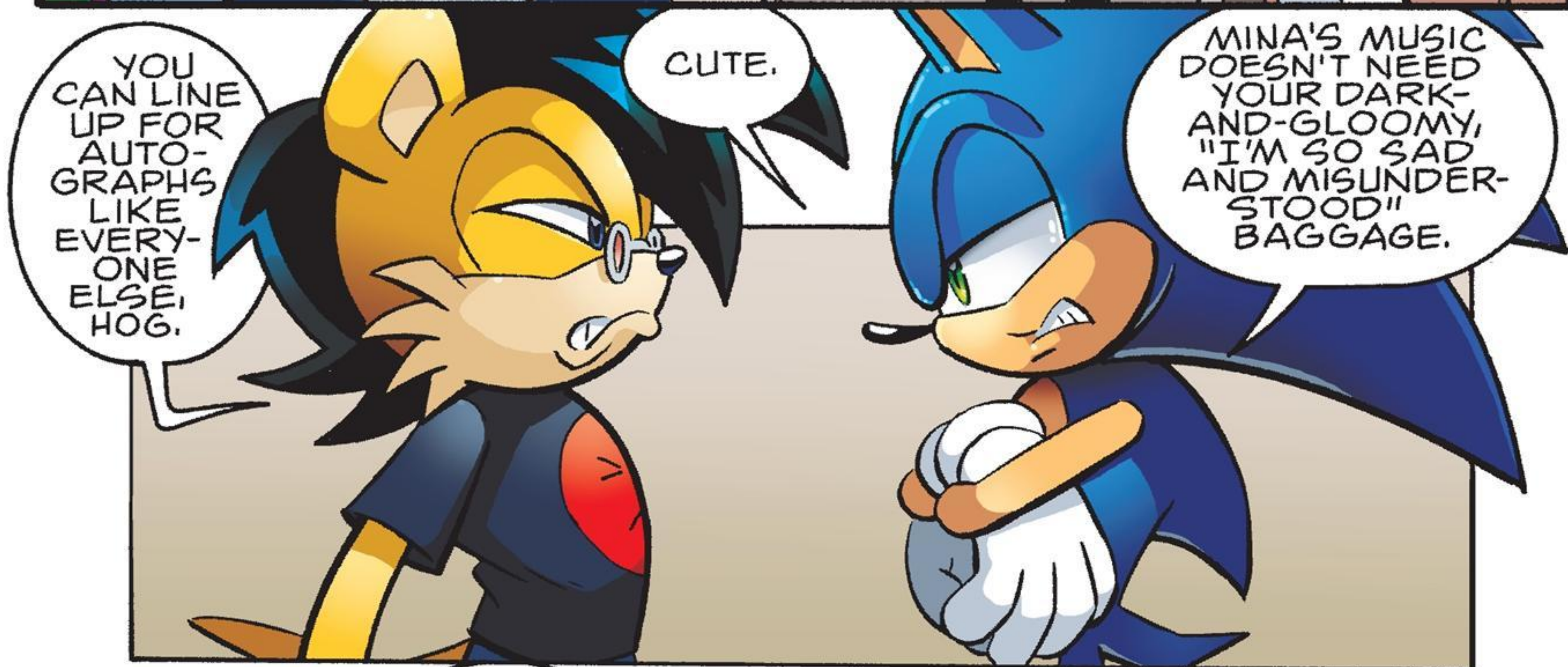




HOW DID YOU GET PAST SECURITY?

PRINCESS.

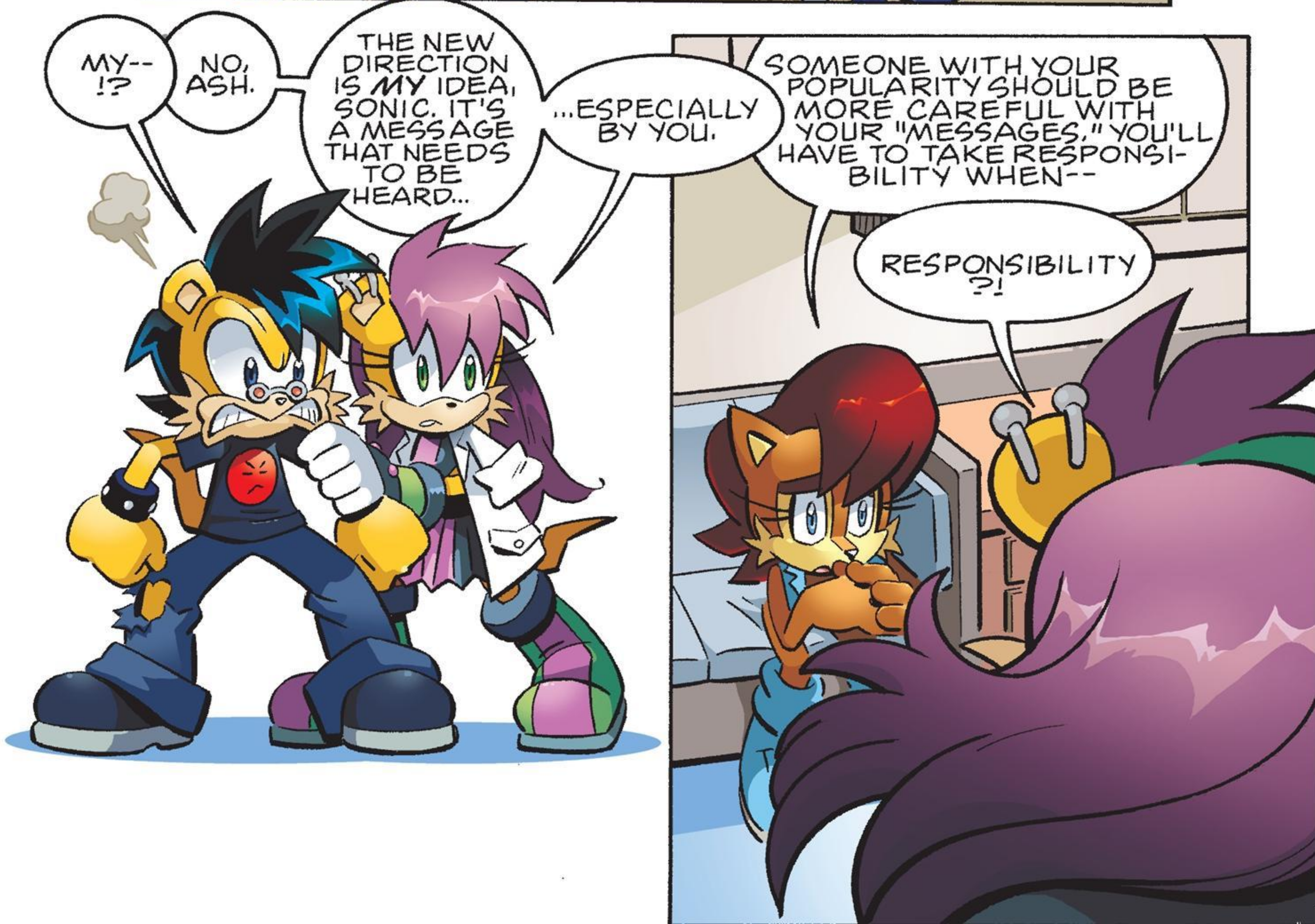
SPEED OF SOUND? KINDA KNOWN FOR IT?



YOU CAN LINE UP FOR AUTO-GRAPHS LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, HOG.

CUTE.

MINA'S MUSIC DOESN'T NEED YOUR DARK-AND-GLOOMY, "I'M SO SAD AND MISUNDERSTOOD" BAGGAGE.



MY--!?

NO, ASH.

THE NEW DIRECTION IS MY IDEA, SONIC. IT'S A MESSAGE THAT NEEDS TO BE HEARD...

...ESPECIALLY BY YOU.

SOMEONE WITH YOUR POPULARITY SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL WITH YOUR "MESSAGES." YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY WHEN--

RESPONSIBILITY?!

WHAT ABOUT YOU AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS? BUNNIE, KHAN, AND NICOLE ALL GOT TURNED ON YOU! AND NICOLE RUNS THE CITY--IS THE CITY! HOW IS THAT "RESPONSIBLE"?!
WHILE YOU WERE HALF A WORLD AWAY..*

...WE WERE RUNNING FOR OUR LIVES! ANYWHERE WE HID COULD BE TURNED INTO A PRISON BY NICOLE!

WHILE YOU TALKED POLITICS OVER THERE, I SAW PEOPLE LEGION-IZED HERE! SO DON'T YOU DARE TALK TO ME ABOUT "RESPONSIBILITY!"

*SEE SU ARC # 4--"JOURNEY TO THE EAST," SU #s 13-16.

SO WE SHOULD'VE STAYED AND BEEN CAUGHT, TOO?

SAVE IT, SONIC. BUT ONE THING ABOUT NICOLE, MINA...

SHE WAS IN FULL CONTROL WHILE WE WERE GONE, AND SHE KEPT UP THE ACT TO PROTECT AS MANY AS POSSIBLE. SHE SAW ALL THE LEGIONIZING FIRST-HAND, AND SHE WAS AT YOUR CONCERT.



WE'RE NOT AFRAID!

WE'LL TAKE BACK OUR CITY!

DOES SHE FEEL IT IF I STOMP THE GROUND?

I HOPE SO!

YOU LISTENING, COMPUTER? QUIT SPYING ON US!

REMEMBER KNOTHOLE!

BRICK AND MORTAR!

MAYBE EGGMAN SHOULD COME BACK. SEE HOW FAST THESE INGRATES GO FROM "WAAAAH, SHE'S EVIL" TO "OH, SAVE US, NICOLE, WITH YOUR FORCE-FIELDS!"

DON'T SAY THAT...

I KNOW, I KNOW. IT'S JUST...

NICOLE? IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, PLEASE DON'T HIDE. TALK TO ME.

TALK TO US.

"WE'RE STILL YOUR FRIENDS."

FESTER IN YOUR FEAR, NEW MOBOTROPOLIS. BATHE IN YOUR TERROR!

...UNTIL YOU **BEG** ME TO SAVE YOU!

WE'RE BUILDING TO A BOIL. WHAT IS NAUGUS'S NEXT SHADOWY MOVE? MAYBE HE'LL WAIT LONG ENOUGH FOR SONIC AND SALLY TO CATCH A BREAK IN "THE WORLD CAN WAIT!" UNTIL THEN... CHECK OUT SONIC UNIVERSE, SONIC ARCHIVES, AND SONIC SELECTS!

SECOND IMPRESSIONS

PART ONE



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IAN
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FRY

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TERRY
AUSTIN

LETTERS:
JOHN E.
WORKMAN, JR.

COLORS:
MATT
HERMS



OH, I DID NOT REALIZE I HAD BEEN HERE THAT LONG.

GIVEN THE NATURE OF MINA'S SONG, I THOUGHT IT BEST TO GIVE YOU SOME TIME BEFORE VOICING MY CONCERN...

...AND I SUPPOSE ESPIO IS DOING THE SAME.

ESPIO?

YOU CERTAINLY KNOW A LOT FOR SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN "MISSING" FOR SO LONG.

I HAVE LIMITED ACCESS TO THE CITY'S NETWORK. I COULD VIEW THE CONCERT--AND YOU COMING IN THE FRONT DOOR.

WHAT IS HE DOING HERE, NICOLE?!

SONIC AND TAILS RESCUED HIM!* WHEN SALLY FOUND OUT HE HAD BEEN LEFT FOR DEAD, SHE KNEW WE HAD TO SHOW HIM MERCY.

WHAT? WHAT DOES A VILLAIN AND A TRAITOR HAVE TO SAY TO ME?!

AND YOU WOULD KNOW NOTHING ABOUT BEING BRANDED A TRAITOR? HMM? NOW TELL ME-- DID YOU REALLY COME HERE TO THREATEN ME AND YELL AT NICOLE?

...NO.

*SEE STH # 212.

ESPIO...

NICOLE,
I SAW YOU
RUN FROM
THE
CONCERT.
I...I CAME
TO SEE IF
YOU WERE
OKAY.



YOU
DID?
BUT...
WHY?

BECAUSE YOU HELPED ME HELP
CHARMY.* AND BECAUSE THE IRON
DOMINION USED US BOTH, I JUST...
I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE
EVERYONE'S TRUST.

OH...I-I MEANT...
HOW DID YOU KNOW
I WOULDN'T JUST
DISAPPEAR INTO
THE SYSTEM?



BECAUSE HE KNOWS YOU
ARE NO LONGER A MERE
PROGRAM, CHILD. A PRO-
GRAM WOULD NOT RUN
AWAY IN FEAR, OR WEEP
ON THE FLOOR. HE KNEW
WHERE HIS FRIEND THE
MOBIAN WOULD GO.

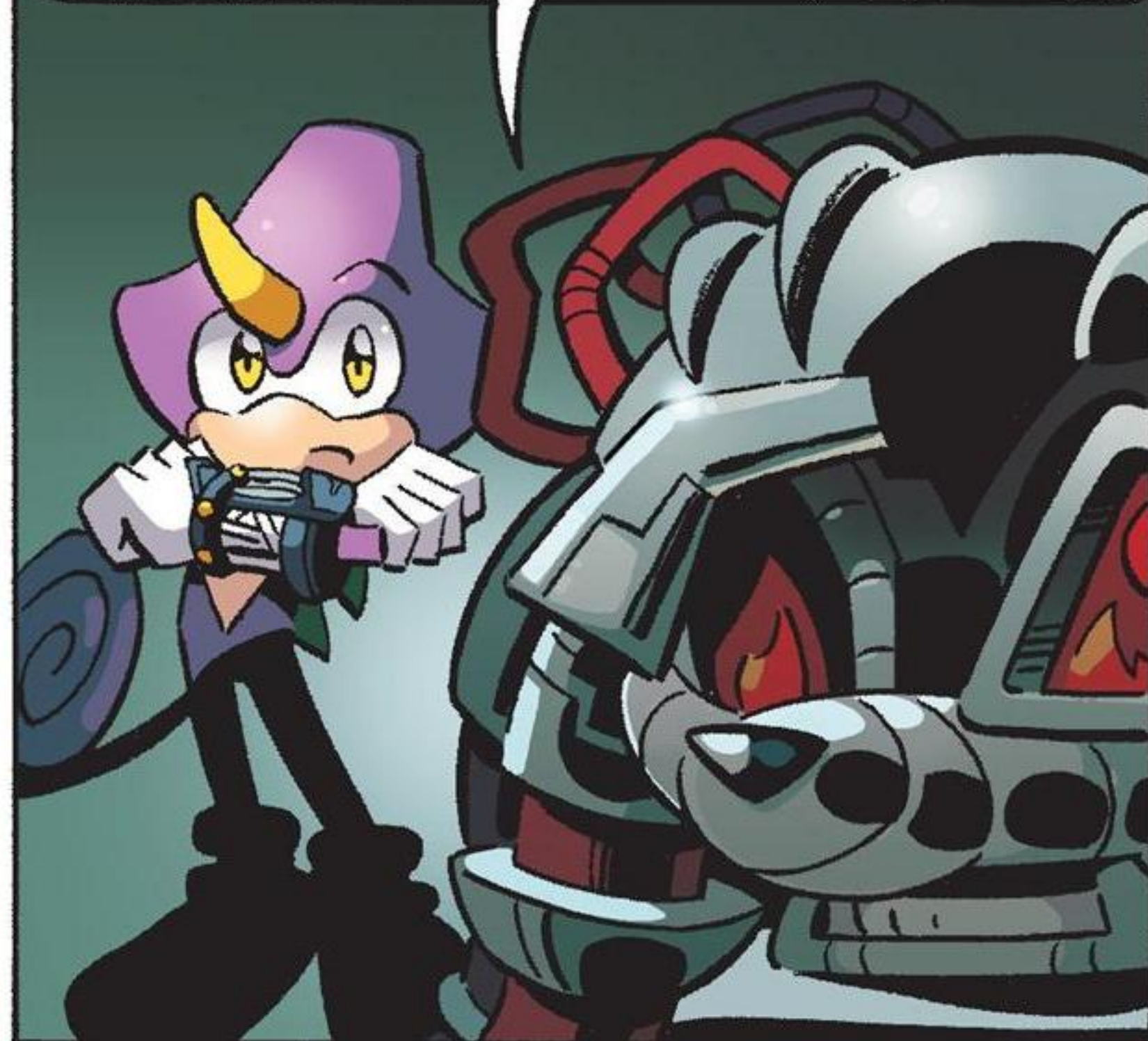


RIGHT OR NOT,
THIS IS **DIMITRI**,
NICOLE! HOW COULD
YOU NOT SAY SOME-
THING? DOES
KNUCKLES KNOW?

ONLY A
SELECT FEW
KNOW. HE'S
PREPARING
HIMSELF
TO FACE
KNUCKLES.



SHE'S BEING KIND. IN TRUTH, I
FEAR FACING HIM AT ALL. WE
HAVE BEEN SWORN ENEMIES
FOR A VERY LONG TIME... I--I
HAVE DONE HORRIBLE THINGS.
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT ME, I
WORRY FOR YOU, NICOLE.





AND NOW LOOK AT ME. NEVER TO BE WITH MY FAMILY AGAIN. MY PEOPLE LED ASTRAY BY MY OWN SON. MY LEGACY A TWISTED, WRETCHED THING SERVING THE EGGMAN EMPIRE.

I WAS SELFISH. YOU TWO HAVE SOMETHING THAT I HAD IGNORED...



YOU HAVE THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF OTHERS. FRIENDS WHO WILL SEEK YOU OUT TO HELP YOU...

NICOLE, YOU MUST BE BRAVE AND FACE THE PUBLIC'S SCORN. THEY CANNOT HATE A FACELESS MONSTER OF THE SHADOWS WHEN SHE STANDS UP TO THEM WITH REASON.



THOUGH...IT IS ONE THING TO SPEAK OF COURAGE. IT'S ANOTHER TO POSSESS IT. I'M AFRAID YOU TWO MUST LEAD BY EXAMPLE.

THANK YOU, DIMITRI. YOU CAN REST HERE UNTIL YOU ARE READY.



I WILL NEVER BE "READY," CHILD. ESPIO, I KNOW IT IS A LOT FOR ME TO ASK YOU FOR ANYTHING, BUT WOULD YOU ARRANGE A MEETING WITH KNUCKLES FOR ME?



WELL... I'M IN NO POSITION TO DENY SOMEONE A SECOND CHANCE. I'LL TALK TO KNUX, IF YOU'LL COME WITH ME.



OF COURSE. I'LL HELP EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.

NEXT TIME

--KNUCKLES COMES FACE-TO-FACE WITH HIS OLDEST AND MOST PERSONAL FOE! WILL IT END IN PEACE--OR **PIECES?** SEE YOU NEXT TIME!



YOU HAVE THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF OTHERS. FRIENDS WHO WILL SEEK YOU OUT TO HELP YOU...

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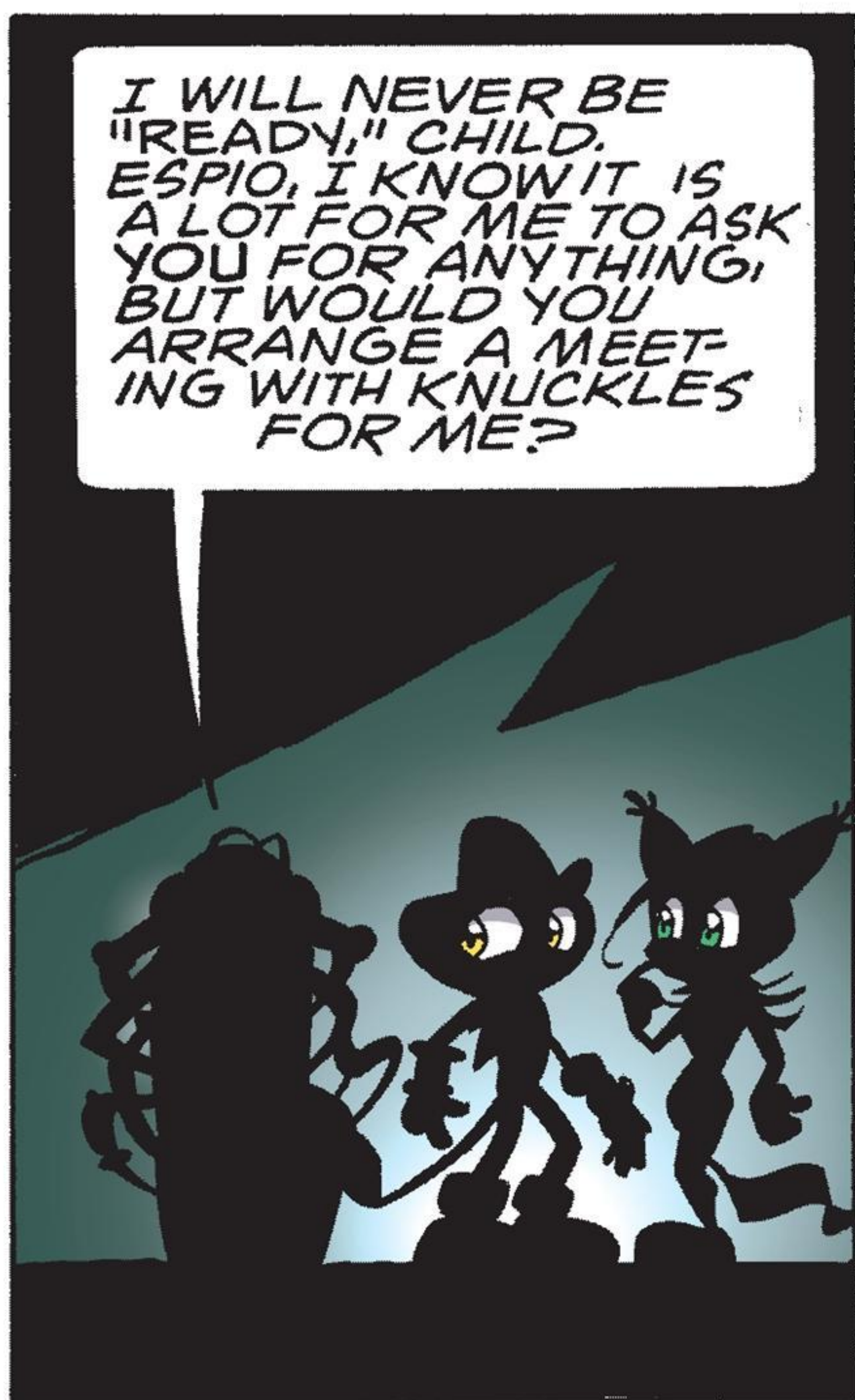


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IT'S ON.



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TO RUMBLE??

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the SONIC SPIN

an editorial column you say?! well la-dee-da

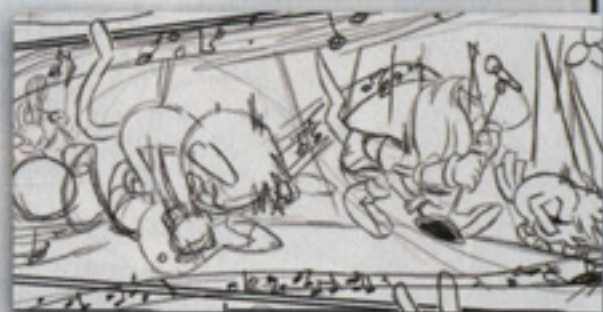
MINA ROCKS THE HOUSE!

The story you hold in your hands is really cool for me because it was one of the first ideas I worked out with Ian upon taking over editorial duties on Sonic! It started one Saturday morning as I started thinking about the events of the IRON DOMINION story over and over. I started thinking about what it would actually be like if the city you lived in came alive and tried to eat you – and who you'd blame.

Well, after a lengthy call to Ian about this idea, out came "Swan Song," later changed to "Changing Tempo" – a story in which a pop star decides to use her music to start a revolution of sorts so that something as horrible as the Iron Dominion invasion would never happen again! And I couldn't have asked for a better art team to deliver this story! How awesome was that concert scene?!

CATCH YA NEXT MONTH.

Paul 12/10



FUN FACT!

This issue marks penciller Ben Bates' very first Sonic the Hedgehog cover! Ben did the entire cover himself from sketch to color, and you can catch a glimpse of Ben's process with these exclusive early sketches and rough cuts! (above)

"THEY'LL KNOW OF US WHEN I WANT THEM TO KNOW!"
~ DR. EGGMAN, SONIC #212



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Philip W.
from Minnesota



Sally Acorn

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OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: JAMES FRY
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN COLORS: PAUL KAMINSKI





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SONIC-GRAMS

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P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

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LETTERS

DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF FAN RESPONSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EACH FAN. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED LETTERS TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS ARE APPRECIATED!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
I LOVE SONIC!!!

There's plenty of him to go around!

I have a few questions.

You may fire when ready!

1) Will Cosmo be in Sonic Universe?

No plans for Cosmo... for the moment she'll be an exclusive resident of Sonic-X-re-run-ville.

2) Will the Iron Queen be back soon?

Outside of an upcoming cameo appearance? Not yet. But she will be back.

3) Will anyone turn into their "super" form soon?

Yes. Wait, define "soon"...

4) Will you make any story arcs for the upcoming Sonic games?

Did you check out the SONIC COLORS adaptation in issue #219??

5) Will the Battle Bird Armada be in the comic again?

Yes, and that story is a doozy!

6) Will the story following "Treasure Team Tango" over in Sonic Universe be about Mighty and Ray finding Mighty's sister?

TTT will be followed by the awesome awesomnations awesomeness that is THE SILVER SAGA!!! But you are indeed correct, Mighty & Ray's adventure is far from over!

I'm going to write to "My Sonic Universe" too!

**Sonic's #1 fan,
Shane R.
from Pennsylvania**

Thanks for the letter, Shane!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
This is Trae, an old friend who sent a letter in August of 2008 about Amy Rose!

Welcome back to Sonic Grams, Trae!

I just have a few questions and concerns about Sonic and Tails' latest adventures. First off, it's good to see an old and new rivalry started with Speedy (SU17-20) and the Babylon Rogues of SONIC RIDERS fame.

In case anyone missed it, check out THE TAILS ADVENTURE arc from Sonic Universe for the full scoop!

Speaking of the Rogues, in Sonic #217, did I see Storm in silhouette in the Sand Blast City when Jack was talking to Sonic?

It certainly looked that way, didn't it? Fun fact: penciller-supreme Ben Bates initially drew Cream's silhouette in that panel, but we asked him to remove it because she was slated to premiere in that very issue!

Also in Sonic#217, is Matilda Mighty's sister? If so, please go ahead and let

Mighty find her. And it looks like she is brainwashed...make sure Mighty un-brain-washes her!

That's TWO requests to see "the Mighty sister" follow-up! TWO! ah ah ah "thunder noises"

Finally, I would like to see soon what becomes of Fiona and the Destructix.

Patience, it's coming sooner than you think!

Alright guys, keep on doing it to it.

**From one of your good friends and fans,
Trae H.
from Tennessee**

P.S. - Good job on the art, Ben & Steven! You too, Tracy -- don't let up!

Thanks for the letter, Trae, and thanks for the super cool drawing you included of Sonic racing Jet the Hawk!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
I wanted to know if the Sonic Team can make a site similar to archiedigital.com so I can catch up on the issues I missed; this includes Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic X & Sonic Universe. It's no biggie but just a suggestion.

Gregoire P.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

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MONKEY KHANI NEXT ISSUE! WOOL**

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ON SALE THE WEEK OF 03/08/11

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THE SILVER SAGA
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